

Documents on Diplomacy: Resources

Key Players: Section IX, World War II

Chiang Kai-shek: (Jiang Jieshi) A close ally of Sun Yat-sen, Chiang became leader of the Chinese Nationalist party after Sun's death. He led the Nationalists in a civil war with the Chinese Communist Party. He was eventually forced to flee and reconstituted his state on the island of Taiwan, where he lived until his death in 1975.

Winston Churchill: Britain's eloquent wartime Prime Minister. He was voted out of office in 1945, but returned to serve as prime minister one more time. Churchill's mother was an American. A statue of Churchill outside of the British Embassy in Washington, D.C. has one foot on American soil as a tribute to his heritage and the Anglo-American relationship.

Anthony Eden: British diplomat who held the post of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs three times—from 1935-38, 1940-1945, and 1951-1955. After a short term as Deputy Prime Minister, Eden became Prime Minister in 1955 and served until 1957.

James William Fulbright, Jr.: A U.S. Senator who was the longest serving chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. He was a staunch supporter of internationalism and the United Nations.

Clarence E. Gauss: U.S. Ambassador to China from 1941 to 1944. He was replaced by Patrick Hurley.

Kensuke Horinouchi: U.S. Ambassador to Japan prior to World War II. He resigned rather than lie to the Americans about Japan's true intentions in the Pacific.

Hirohito: Japanese Emperor from 1926 until his death in 1989. He was the supreme ruler of Japan before World War II and its constitutional head of state, with greatly diminished power, under the postwar constitution.

Harry Hopkins: One of Franklin Roosevelt's closest aides, Hopkins played a major part in the Lend Lease program.

Cordell Hull: The longest serving Secretary of State in U.S. history (1933-1944), Hull received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1945 for his role in establishing the United Nations.

Patrick Hurley: U.S. Ambassador to China, 1944-1945. During his tenure, Hurley felt that he was being undermined by the Department of State and that the Embassy's Foreign Service Officers were disloyal. He was a strong supporter of Chiang Kai-shek.

Saburo Kurusu: A Japanese diplomat who was his country's ambassador to Germany from 1939 to November 1941. He was sent from Japan to Washington in a last ditch attempt to avoid war between the two nations.

Mao Tse-tung: (Mao Zedong) Leader of the Chinese Communist Party, Mao ousted Chiang Kai-shek and founded the People's Republic of China.

George C. Marshall: U.S. Army Chief of Staff during World War II, Marshall later served as President Truman's Secretary of State and then as Secretary of Defense.

Joseph McCarthy: Conservative Wisconsin Senator who claimed that communists were secretly infiltrating the U.S. Government. The anti-communist movement was much larger than one man, but it is generally referred to today as "McCarthyism."

Vyacheslav Molotov: Soviet diplomat and foreign minister under Joseph Stalin.

Kichisaburo Nomura: Japanese Ambassador to the United States at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Franklin D. Roosevelt: Four-term President of the United States from 1933 until his death in 1945.

John Service: American career diplomat stationed in China during World War II. Service was sent to report on the movement led by Mao Tse-tung (Zedong). His favorable reports made him—and the Department of State—a target of the anti-communist supporters of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Joseph Stalin: Leader of the Soviet Union from 1941 to 1953. Stalin was the General Secretary of the Communist Party and transformed that post into the most important position in the USSR. During the war, Americans referred to him as "Uncle Joe."

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr.: Served as Secretary of State under Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman from 1944-1945.

General Joseph Stilwell: Known as "Vinegar Joe," Stilwell was the commander of the Burma-China-India theater and chief of staff to Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek during World War II. Stilwell's disagreements with other wartime commanders and his disgust at the corruption of Chiang's regime led to removal in 1944.

Harry S Truman: U.S. Senator from Missouri selected to be FDR's vice presidential running mate in 1944. Truman became President after FDR's death in April 1945. He was known as a tough and ethical—although often unpopular—leader. Truman had no middle name, so there is no period after the letter, "S". Department of State headquarters in Washington, D.C. is known as the "Harry S Truman Building."

Sumner Welles: An American diplomat who served in Cuba and later as Under Secretary of State during the administration of Franklin Roosevelt. Welles played a large part in the design of the United Nations.

John Winant: U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain from 1941 to 1946.